



Atlantic Shark Commercial Fishery Update

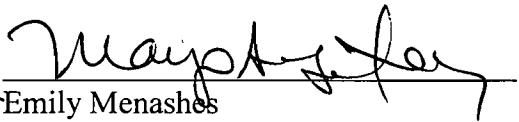
Below are the preliminary landings estimates in metric tons (mt) and pounds (lb) dressed weight (dw) for the Atlantic Shark commercial fisheries from **January 1, 2011, through February 28, 2011**. Most of these preliminary landings estimates include landing reports received through February 28, 2011; shark research fishery estimates include landing reports received through March 15, 2011. The landings presented below are total landings reported through the Pelagic Dealer Compliance (PDC), and the Accumulated Landings System (ALS). Landings within the shark research fishery were determined from trip tickets provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) by scientific observers. The estimates include landings by state-only permitted vessels, federally permitted vessels, and the 2011 shark research fishery participants. **NMFS encourages fishermen to avoid blacknose shark catch in order to keep the non-blacknose SCS fishery open as long as possible.**

Species Group	Region	Season Opening Dates	2011 Quota	Estimated Landings	% of Quota
Non-Sandbar Large Coastal Sharks	Gulf of Mexico	March 1	351.9 mt dw (775,740 lb dw)	0 mt dw (0 lb dw)	0%
	Atlantic	July 15	190.4 mt dw (419,756 lb dw)	0 mt dw (0 lb dw)	0%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Non-Sandbar LCS)	No regional quotas	January 1	37.5 mt dw (82,673 lb dw)	9.9 mt dw (21,794 lb dw)	26%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Sandbar only)		January 1	87.9 mt dw (193,784 lb dw)	Inside SRF 14.7 mt dw (32,482 lb dw) Outside SRF * 0.5 mt dw (1,176 lb dw)	17%
Non-Blacknose Small Coastal Sharks	No regional quotas	January 1	314.4 mt dw (693,257 lb dw)	20.1 mt dw (44,426 lb dw)	6.4%
Blacknose Sharks		January 1	19.9 mt dw (43,872 lb dw)	2.6 mt dw (6,410 lb dw)	14.6%
Blue Sharks	No regional quotas	January 1	273 mt dw (601,856 lb dw)	4.6 mt dw (10,241 lb dw)	1.7%
Porbeagle Sharks		January 1	1.6 mt dw (3,479 lb dw)	0.04 mt dw (92 lb dw)	2.6%
Pelagic Sharks Other Than Porbeagle or Blue		January 1	488 mt dw (1,075,856 lb dw)	19.4 mt dw (38,888 lb dw)	3.6%

* These landings are from state landings, unverified landings and/or unclassified sharks.



This notice is a courtesy to the HMS fishery participants to help keep you informed about your fishery. For further information on this landings update or the closure, contact Karyl Brewster-Geisz or Guý DuBeck at 301-713-2347. The information will also be posted on the HMS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms>.


for Emily Menashes
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

3/22/2011
Date

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